

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A telecommunications system and method is disclosed for delivering a Short Message Service (SMS) message to a dual mode mobile terminal in data mode within a network capable of providing both voice services and data services. To receive the SMS message during a data session, the SMS message is encapsulated into an Internet Protocol (IP) packet and routed to the mobile terminal as an electronic mail (e-mail) message. In one embodiment, when the SMS message is received at the Mobile Services Switching Center (MSC) serving the mobile terminal, the MSC determines whether the mobile terminal is in data mode. If so, the MSC converts the SMS message into an e-mail message and routes the e-mail message to the mobile terminal via the Packet Data Service Node (PDSN) serving the mobile terminal. In an alternative embodiment, the MSC routes the SMS message to the Base Station Controller (BSC) serving the mobile terminal. The BSC translates the SMS message into an e-mail message and transmits the e-mail message to the mobile terminal.